ITANE ALKH0

White House spokesman says

ixon will take whatever action necessary in Vietnam

ouse spokesman declared Mon- was speaking for the President. ay that President Nixon will take whatever action is necessary thwart this invasion" of South Vietnam by North Vietnamese

Press secretary Ronald L. Zieew hours after Secretary of State William P. Rogers had told sentors bombing of the Haiphong and Hanoi areas was essential to otection of American troops and o Nixon's over-all Vietnamization

At his afternoon briefing, Zie-

Meanwhile, the State Department replied to Moscow's claim that four Soviet ships were damaged in the Haiphong bombing

The note, delivered to Soviet gler had this word for newsmen a authorities, did not concede that ships had been hit, but said if they were "it was inadvertent and regrettable."

The State Department, noting Soviet arms aid to Hanoi, said, "Countries which supply offensive equipment to the North Vietnamese and enable them to mount gler referred reporters to Rogers's an invasion of South Vietnam

Rogers, the first high administration official to comment publicly on the weekend bombings of the two areas, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the President had three purposes in mind in sending the bombers

-"To protect American troops in South Vietnam and protect the lives of those troops while the withdrawal program continues." -To continue the U.S. withdrawal program.

-To insure that the South Vietnamese will be able to defend

mittee the United States has "no intention of permitting North Vietnam to take over South Vietnam by force."

In this line, he said, "I'm not going to make any announcement about what we're not going to do," adding two excep-

There will be no reintroduction of U.S. ground combat troops and there will be no use of nu-

Squadron 11 were designated Sun-

day the outstanding units of

ael A. Thompson of Baytown;

Sidney C. Hughes Jr., Austin, and

Wayne C. Edwards, College Sta-

tion, were called forward at Par-

ents Day review to receive flags

and citation cords indicating honor

Presentations culminated year-

long competition among 36 Army

and Air Force units and the Ag-

gie Band for the coveted awards. Company D-2 received the Gen.

George F. Moore award as the

best overall unit in the 2,200-

member corps, the largest uni-

formed ROTC corps in the U.S. The George P.F. Jouine flag

for the top record of academic

excellence and improvement went

to Company K-1. Squadron 11

earned the Bruno A. Hochmuth

flag for best scores in marching,

inspections, improvement, reten-

tion, replacement and participa-

unit status.

The units commanded by Mich-

A&M's 1971-72 Corps of Cadets.

Corps Companies D-2, K-1,

Squadron 11 honored Sunday

Companies D-2 and K-1 and tion in extra-curricular activities.

Otherwise, the President will take whatever action necessary to meet the three conditions that brought about the weekend bombing, Rogers said.

The air raids, the secretary went on, represented no change of policy and followed the pattern Nixon has constantly set out: to take necessary action to protect American troops.

In the face of hostile ques-

Edwards, son of Mr. and Mrs.

E. T. Edwards, 302 Timber, Col-

lege Station, also received the out-

standing company/squadron com-

A special meritorious award

was presented to Squadron 3 sen-

ior Gary W. Beckcom of San An-

tonio. For outstanding loyalty,

courage and pride, it cited his

efforts to overcome an injury re-

ceived working on the 1969 bon-

The 6th Battalion commanded

by Cadet Lt. Col. Larry M. Bragg

of Talpa received the President's

Flag for the battalion or group

with the highest scholastic stand-

ing. Company L-1 under Cadet Maj. Michael J. Weynand of Hon-

do received the Gen. Spencer J.

Buchanan flag and plaque as the

best company-sized unit of engi-

neering students. The R. D. Hin-

ton award for the outstanding

color guard went to the 1st Brig-

fire and remain in the corps.

mander award.

J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., and Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, the secretary said the air raids were

confined to military targets. He added that conditions now indicate the current air war could succeed even though past bombings did not inhibit Hanoi's determination to keep fighting.

This was determined, Rogers declared, by what he called the all-out commitment Hanoi has made to a conventional invasion of the South.

With 12 of their 13 divisions out of North Vietnam, Hanoi's leaders have made such targets as oil supply dumps much more important than in the past, he

In declaring it vital to turn back the current drive, Rogers said also the successful defense of the South could lead to better prospects for settlement.

"We have reason to think," Rogers said, that if the North Vietnamese are convinced the United States won't allow their offensives to succeed, they "may decide its' not worth it to continue fighting."

For the assault to succeed would be a disaster, he said, "resulting in a bloodbath."

In addition, American foreign policy would suffer a major blow through the destabilization of Southeast Asia, he said.

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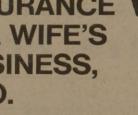
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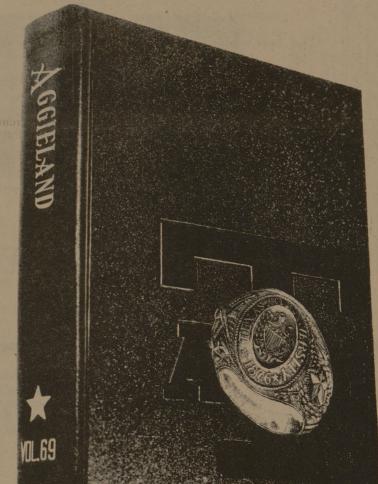


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